



Project: Student Farm

Funding Source: Sustainable Campus Environment Fee

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Receiving Campus Unit: Crop Sciences Department

Unit Financial Officer: Sheryl Netherton

E-mail: netherto@illinois.edu **Phone:** (217) 244-4249

Primary Contact Person: Bruce Branham

E-mail: bbranham@illinois.edu **Phone:** (217) 333-7848

Secondary Contact Person: Zachary Grant

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Project Description:

This proposal looks to continue to develop a student run farm at the Horticultural Pomology Farm on the southeast corner of Lincoln and Windsor. As a partnership between the campus horticulture program and students, the farm will significantly contribute to campus food needs by supplying produce to University food service operations. This will allow the campus to move toward a more sustainable agricultural model and reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with food transportation. Student volunteers and Crop Sciences employees will harvest, process and deliver fresh crops to University Dining Services, which will pay the prevailing market rate for the produce. This model should allow the project to bring in adequate funding in the near future, and the requested funds will be used to propel the farm to achieve self-sustaining operations in 2011. Further, a sign will inform the community of the farm's presence and open houses will be held to introduce students and staff to this sustainable agriculture operation. This continued and expanded project will provide tangible evidence of campus commitment to responsible sustainable behavior. Thus, the Student Sustainability Committee is in favor of funding the fully requested amount of \$25,000.

Student Sustainability Committee:

Suhail Barot, 09-10 Committee Chair

Date Approved: May 20, 2010

Erin Harper, 09-10 Committee Vice-Chair

Date Approved: _____

Office of Sustainability:

Richard Warner, Director, Office of Sustainability

Date Approved: _____

Steve Sonka, Vice-Chancellor for Public Engagement

Date Approved: _____

May 6th, 2010

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
Student Sustainability Committee

Re: Request for funding from the UIUC Sustainability / Clean Energy Technology Fees
Project: Student Farm
Applicant: Bruce Branham

Dear Bruce:

On behalf of the Student Sustainability Committee for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, I would like to thank you for responding to our call for proposals to use funds raised by the student Clean Energy Technology and Sustainability Fees to implement a project that improves the sustainability of our campus. Each proposal was evaluated based on its sustainability impact (i.e. energy or sustainability impact, campus presence, project longevity, and budget) and broader impact (i.e. education and creativity).

The Committee is pleased to inform you that we are recommending to the Office of Sustainability that your project (to continue the development of a student farm in order to enable self-sustaining operation by 2011) **receive \$25,000 in funding, with the following requirements:** 1) that awareness of committee's support of the project be increased by publicizing at the farm site 2) That awareness of the use of local food from the student farm and awareness of the Committee's support be increased in University food service operations and residence halls, 3) That produce is sold to University Dining Services and other University entities at prevailing market rates, 4) That future farm profits will be used to sponsor teaching and outreach programs, further expansion of the farm, and potential research collaborations, 5) That the use of students and volunteers be maximized for establishing and maintaining production, 6) That all funds provided by the SSC be expended by December 1st, 2010, and that a report of all work completed and accounting of funds spent be provided to us by December 31st, 2010. If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact us at sustainability-committee@uiuc.edu

The Committee will contact you when the Office of Sustainability officially approves this project. At that point, we will discuss the Committee's protocol for financial and progress management to complete this project, and make arrangements for transfer of funds. As previously discussed, semesterly updates and account statements describing how funds are being used will be required in addition to a final report on project completion.

Again, thank you for your interest in improving the sustainability of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Suhail F. Barot
UIUC Student Sustainability Committee, Chair